23 June 1958

Warren:

For about the last year, I have asked the D/M Branch Chiefs to let me see routed documents which experienced undue delay in routing or showed peculiarities in routing. The first of these two problems is related to DD/I Notice 20-100-19, which says that a routed document can be held only 3 working days by each recipient. I am attaching herewith State Cable 1416 to Moscow which illustrates some of the problems we not infrequently run across. You will note that the telegram took almost a month to move from A/U to M/FM and that it was date stamped only by M/FM and one other office, probably A/U. The order of routing is rather paculiar. The telegram deals with the Steel Delegation to the USSR and the Branch of primary concern is M/FM, yet M/FM is last on routing.

Reading Panel to date stamp routed documents when they were released in order to permit control over the first recipient on the routing. thinks that it would be time consuming to do so and that it would be useful only in the few cases where routed documents have in fact been delayed. We think, however, that it would be generally useful in expediting the movement of material. We would appreciate further consideration of the idea and hope that you will be able to find a simple and painless solution.

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